

AMENDMENTS

Listing of Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings or versions thereof:

1.-38 (cancelled)

39. (currently amended) A method of identifying a modulator of a Fortilin polypeptide comprising:

- (a) contacting an isolated Fortilin polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 with a candidate substance; and
- (b) assaying whether the candidate substance enhances or inhibits the Fortilin polypeptide binding activity, wherein a candidate substance that enhances or inhibits Fortilin polypeptide activity is a modulator of the Fortilin polypeptide.

40. (previously presented) The method of claim 39, wherein the assaying compares the activity of the Fortilin polypeptide in the presence and absence of the candidate substance.

41. – 45. (cancelled)

46. (previously presented) The method of claim 39, wherein the assaying is done by determining whether a p53-Fortilin interaction is disrupted.

47. (previously presented) The method of claim 39, wherein the assaying is done by determining whether a MCL1-Fortilin interaction is disrupted.

48.-62. (cancelled)

63. (previously presented) The method of claim 39, wherein the candidate substance is a polypeptide.

64. (previously presented) The method of claim 63, wherein the polypeptide is an antibody.

65. (cancelled)

66. (previously presented) The method of claim 39, wherein the candidate substance is a small molecule.

67. (cancelled)

68. (currently amended) A method of identifying a modulator of a Fortilin polypeptide comprising:

- (a) contacting a candidate modulator with isolated, recombinant cells expressing a Fortilin polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) measuring the level of Fortilin activity ~~or expression~~ of the cell; and,
- (c) comparing the level of Fortilin activity ~~or expression~~ of the cells to the level of Fortilin activity ~~or expression~~ of cells not expressing a Fortilin polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 not contacted with the candidate modulator, wherein Fortilin activity is cell cycle progression or inhibition of apoptosis.

wherein a difference between the level of Fortilin activity ~~or expression~~ indicates that the candidate modulator is a modulator of a Fortilin polypeptide.

69.-78. (cancelled)

79. (previously presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the candidate substance is a polypeptide.

80. (previously presented) The method of claim 79, wherein the polypeptide is an antibody.

81. (previously presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the candidate substance is a nucleic acid.

82. (previously presented) The method of claim 81, wherein the nucleic acid comprises at least 20 contiguous nucleotides identical or complementary to SEQ ID NO:1.

83. (previously presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the candidate substance is a small molecule.

84.-87. (cancelled)

88. (previously presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the candidate modulator acts directly on a Fortilin gene or Fortilin RNA.

89.-92. (cancelled)

93. (New) A method of identifying a modulator of a Fortilin polypeptide comprising:

- (a) contacting a candidate modulator with isolated, recombinant cells expressing a Fortilin polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) measuring the level of Fortilin expression of the cell; and,
- (c) comparing the level of Fortilin expression of the cells to the level of Fortilin expression of cells not contacted with the candidate modulator,

wherein a difference between the level of Fortilin expression indicates that the candidate modulator is a modulator of a Fortilin polypeptide.

94. (New) The method of claim 93, wherein the level of Fortilin polypeptide is measured.

95. (New) The method of claim 93, wherein the level of Fortilin mRNA is measured.

96. (New) The method of claim 93, wherein Fortilin half-life is measured.

97. (New) The method of claim 93, wherein the candidate substance is a polypeptide.

98. (New) The method of claim 97, wherein the polypeptide is an antibody.

99. (New) The method of claim 93, wherein the candidate substance is a nucleic acid.

100. (New) The method of claim 99, wherein the nucleic acid comprises at least 20 contiguous nucleotides identical or complementary to SEQ ID NO:1.

101. (New) The method of claim 93, wherein the candidate substance is a small molecule.